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LIVESTOCK AND MEATS FIM 2-59 March 18, 1959

U.S. TRADE IN LIVESTOCK, MEAT. AND MEAT PRODUCTS

The United States imported \$512 million worth of livestock, meat, and meat products, excluding wool, during 1958. This was 78 percent above 1957 imports and 97 percent above the 1951-55 average. The most important factors in this sharp rise were record imports of meat and cattle. Exports, at \$287 million, declined 25 percent from 1957 levels but rose 9 percent from the 1951-55 average.

U.S. NET TRADE IN LIVESTOCK, MEAT, AND MEAT PRODUCTS Net exports (+) Net imports (-)								
	Million dollars							
1951	- 79.3							
1952	- 8.7							
1953	- 36.5							
1954	+ 50.5							
1955	+ 86.8							
1956	+ 154.2							
1957	+ 93.2							
1958	- 225.2							

These changes moved the United States from a net exporter of \$93.2 million of livestock, meat, and meat products during 1957 to a net importer of \$225.2 million in 1958. Slaughter of all types of livestock was down in the United States during 1958. Consequent improved prices made U.S. exports less attractive on world markets and encouraged foreign traders to move supplies into the lucrative U.S. market.

The outlook for 1959 is for a slight reduction in imports, and some increase in exports, thus narrowing the present one-quarter billion-dollar trade gap.

<u>Trade highlights</u> during 1958 were: Record imports of low grade boneless beef and mutton — sharp increases in cattle imports — growing mohair

TABLE 2.--LIVESTOCK, MEAT, AND MEAT PRODUCTS: U.S. exports compared with production, average 1951-55, annual 1958

		Average 1951	-55	1958 1/			
Commodity	Exports	: Production :	Exports compared with production	Exports	Production	Exports compared with production	
Beef and veal PorkLamb and mutton	Million pounds 2/38 2/84 2/2	: Million : pounds 12,885 10,775 679	: Percent 0.3 0.8 0.3	: Million : pounds : 2/33 : 2/62 : 2/6	Million pounds 14,550 10,525 685	Percent 0.2 0.6 0.9	
Total red meat	<u>2</u> /124	24,339	0.5	<u>2</u> /101	25,760	0.4	
Horse meat	18 30	207 1,676	8.7	14 70	79 1,760	17.7	
Total red meat and meat products.	172	26,222	0.7	: : 185	27,599	0.7	
Lard. Tallow and greases	555 995 4•7 •6 2	2,618 2,787 36.9 15.0	21.2 35.7 12.7 4.0 17.5	387 1,119 8.5 1.3	2,458 3,188 37.9 14.5	15.7 35.1 22.4 9.0 77.2	

Preliminary. 2/ Carcass-weight equivalent of meat and animals exported. 3/ Clean basis.

exports -- lower lard and tallow exports -- variety meat exports down -- sharp drop in red meat exports -- lower hide exports.

The 1959 outlook:—Sharply increased variety meat exports — moderate increases in lard and tallow exports — continued rises in mohair shipments — level hides and skins exports — continued heavy meat imports — reduced cattle imports.

Tables 1 and 2 illustrate the general structure of U.S. trade in livestock, meat, and meat products. In relation to total U.S. production, imports of certain skins not produced in great quantity in this country are quite high. Next come imports of red meat which were unusually heavy during 1958. Even with a 5-percent drop in U.S. commercial production during 1958, however, imports—counting the carcass—weight equivalent of livestock imported—were only 5.6 percent of total U.S. output. Live cattle imports accounted for about one-fourth of the 1,443 million pounds of carcass meat imported in 1958.

Animal byproducts are the major item in U.S. livestock-meat export trade. During 1958, the United States exported 77 percent of its mohair clip, 35 percent of its tallow and grease production, 22 percent of the cattle hides, calf and kip skins produced, and 4 percent of its variety meat output.

		Average 1951-	55	1958 1/			
Commodity	Imports	Production	Imports compared with production	Imports	Production	Imports compared with production	
Beef and veal Pork Lamb and mutton Total red meat	Million: pounds: 2/392 2/131 2/2	Million : pounds : 12,885 10,775 679 24,339	Percent 3.0 1.2 0.3	: Million : pounds : 2/1,085 : 2/ 189 : 2/ 28 : 2/3/1,443	Million pounds 14,550 10,525 685 25,760	Percent 7.5 1.8 4.1	
Variety meats	1.5 1.4 3.0 2.9 29.5 20.9	1,676 2,618 2,787 36.9 0.1 15.0	0.1 0.1 0.1 7.9 139.3	: 2.1 : 0 : 1.9 : 1.3 : 19.5 : 24.1	1,760 2,458 3,188 37.9 .2 14.5	0.1 0.1 3.4 166.2	

^{1/} Preliminary. 2/ Carcass-weight equivalent of meat and live animals imported. 3/ Includes meat not specified as to species.

EXPORTS

Inedible tallow and grease exports during 1958 dropped 20 percent below 1957 levels to 1,119 million pounds, valued at \$97.4 million. However, they remained above the 1951-55 average. The drop in 1958 resulted from higher U.S. prices which made U.S. tallow less attractive on the world market and from increased competition from synthetic detergents in Europe. Nevertheless, tallow and greases remained the largest export dollar earner for the U.S. livestock industry in 1958.

Lard exports dropped 23 percent to 387 million pounds, valued at \$52.0 million. Higher U.S. prices, resulting from a 4-percent drop in domestic production plus heavier overseas production and the cessation of Public Law 480 sales for foreign currencies, accounted for most of this drop. Larger U.S. production in 1959 and an expected slackening of foreign output are expected to result in larger exports. The outlook is obscured, however, by the tendency of some U.S. foreign markets to restrict imports to protect their domestic hog industry or to encourage vegetable shortening production. During 1958, Cuba and the United Kingdom took 80 percent of all U.S. lard exported.

Hide and skin exports showed diverse trends during 1958 with cattle hides and calf and kip skin exports dropping and sheep and lamb skin exports rising slightly. The value of these exports during 1958 dropped to \$53.4 million, 18 percent below 1957, but still 59 percent above the 1951-55 average. Cattle hide and kip skin exports fell off sharply during 1958, but calf skin exports remained high, especially during the first half of the year. With expected somewhat higher U.S. production and reduced output in Argentina in 1959, cattle hide exports may increase. Increased U.S. prices, however, may offset these factors and hold exports down. Major U.S. export markets for hides and skins are Japan, the Netherlands, and West Germany.

TABLE 4.—LIVESTOCK, MEAT, AND MEAT PRODUCTS: Value of U.S. exports, average 1951-55, annual 1954-58

Commodity	Average		1955	1956	1957	1958 <u>1</u> /	: 1958 as : percent of:	
	1951-55		: -/// :	: ->>	: ->>1 :	: -//~ <u>a/</u>	1951-55	1957
Beef and veal:						: 1,000 : <u>dollars</u>		Percent
Fresh or frozen	3,544	3,956	5,891	23,144	24,450	4,269		17
Canned Pickled or cured	1,973 2,740		1,800 3,144	1,704 2,846	1,222 3,195	763 4,629		62 145
Total beef and veal	8,257	9,234	10,835	27,694	28,867	9,661	: 117	33
Pork:							:	
Fresh or frozen	2,210		1,104	1,514	1,268	1,510	:	119
cured or cooked	6,038 3,826		6,343 906	7 , 769 617	8,612 1,233	9,618 3,835		31.1
Other pork, pickled, salted, or otherwise cured			5,485	5,904	6,230	1,949	:	31
Hams and shoulders, canned	<u>2</u> /1,127	: 801	842	740	2,224	730	: 65	33
Other pork, canned	2,541	2,392	2,432	2,781	8,103	2,948	: 116	36
Total pork	20,532	16,512	17,112	19,325	27,670	20,590	100	71
Lamb and mutton (except canned)	293	352	223	296	671	504	172	75
Sausage, bologna, and frankfurters:		700	906	000	3 503	7. Ol-O	:	-
Except canned	7 ⁴ 5 2,213		886 2,313	999 2,090	1,701 3,862	1,242 1,085		73 28
Total sausage, etc	2,958	3,601	3,199	3,089	5,563	2,327	79	42
Meat and meat products, canned, n.e.c.	885	1,323	752	758	1,722	1,477	167	86
Baby food, canned	160	185	187	259	502	704	440	140
Total red meat exports	33,085	31,207	32,308	51,421	64,995	35,263	107	54
Horse meat (all kinds)	2,634	2,590	2,617	2,852	1,970	1,114	42	57
Variety meats	6,382	10,354	13,183	18,641	18,671	15,854	248	85
Total red meat and meat products	42,101	44,151	48,108	72,914	85,636	52,231	124	61
Sausage casing, natural, hog	6,136	3,804	4,298	4,311	6,930	8,374	136	121
Sausage casing, natural, n.e.c			4,252	3,326	3,244	3,382	:	104
Lard	86,516		76,066	79,523	74,453	52,020	•	70
Tallow and greases 3/	81,266		109,091	122,889	121,046	97,376	:	80
Hides and skins:							:	
Cattle, calf, and kip	32,405 1,211		56,835 1,686	54,657 2,261	61,965 2,948	50,633 2,739		82 93
Total hides and skins	33,616	47,238	58,521	56,918	64,913	53,372	159	82
Mohair	1,980	2,409	6,168	13,474	11,840	11,876	600	100
Livestock: Cattle and calvesSheep and lamb	7,319 268 144	290	12,413 469 383	9,966 1,089 532	12,011 743 261	7,946 382 56	: 143	66 51 21
Grand total	262,485	287,828	319,769	364,942	381,077	287,015	109	75

^{1/} Preliminary. 2/ Hams and shoulders included in "other pork, canned" for 1951, 4-year average. 3/ Includes inedible tallow, inedible animal greases and fats, inedible animal oils, n.e.c., neatsfoot oil and stock, oleic acid or red oil, and stearic acid.

TABLE 5.--LIVESTOCK, MEAT, AND MEAT PRODUCTS: U.S. exports, product weight basis, average 1951-55, annual 1954-58

	: Average : 1951-55		1955	1956	1957	1958 <u>1</u> /	1958 percer	t of:	
	. 1951-55		· 	<u> </u>	· 		1951-55	1957	
	pounds		1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	: 1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	Percent	
Beef and veal: Fresh or frozen	: 10,240 :	13,015	18,438	68,843	70,853	6,811	67	10	
Canned	: 5,101	6,287	5,094	4,693	3,219 14,464	1,703	33	53	
Pickled or cured	: 12,571		17,132	15,755		16,258		112	
Total beef and veal	27,912	33,824	40,664	89,291	88,536	24,772	: 89	28	
Pork: Fresh or frozen Hams and shoulders, cured	9,324		6,657	7,904	5,766	7,303	78	127	
or cooked	: 12,067 : : 19,208 :		14,438 3,180	17,755 1,644	18,301 2,515	19,132 13,601		105 541	
BaconOther pork, pickled, salted,	: 19,200	4,017	3,100	1,044	2,717		:	5+±	
or otherwise cured	: 30,037 : <u>2</u> /1,439 :		37,076 1,200	42,053 1,052	33,115 3,357	9,492 921		29 27	
Hams and shoulders, canned Other pork, canned	3,740	3,445	3,772	5,163	14,946	3,799	102	25	
Total pork	75,815	52,893	66,323	75,571	78,000	54,248	: 72	70	
Lamb and mutton (except canned).	629	827	426	583	1,313	744	118	57	
Sausage, bologna, and frankfurters:									
Except canned	1,843 4,565	1,417 6,413	1,887 5,492	2,326 4,623	3,375 6,525	2,168 2,009		64 31	
Total sausage, etc	6,408	7,830	7,379	6,949	9,900	4,177	: 65	42	
Meat and meat products,	:		4.0						
canned, n.e.c	: 2,662 :	4,116	2,648	2,538	5,029	5,325	: 200	106	
Baby food, canned	332	14014	478	607	1,127	1,659	500	147	
Total red meat exports	: 113,758	99,894	117,918	175,539	183,905	90,925	: 80	49	
Horse meat (all kinds)	17,719	16,328	13,505	11,190	7,246	3,896	22	54	
Variety meats	30,450	45,922	69,536	99,427	91,179	69,557	228	76	
Total red meat and meat products	: 161,927	162,144	200,959	286,156	282,330	164,378	: 102	58	
Sausage casing, natural, hog	8,129	5,859	7,966	7,339	8,402	8,279	102	99	
Sausage casing, natural, n.e.c	8,708	11,457	11,067	10,881	10,110	8,408	97	83	
Lard	554,616	465,397	562,071	611,394	501,262	386,542	70	77	
Tallow and greases 3/	995,376	1,169,281	1,302,597	1,501,675	1,391,771	1,119,444	112	80	
Hides and skins (1,000 pieces): Cattle, calf, and kip Sheep and lamb	4,743 602	7,744 586	9,431 847	8,046 831	9,813 1,354	8,466 1,365	178 227	86 101	
Total hides and skins	5,345	8,330	10,278	8,877	11,167	9,831	: 184	88	
Mohair	1,908	2,536	6,053	11,835	9,992	13,210	692	132	
Livestock (number):	18 000	01 050	2). 002	26 960	ha oh-	OF F90	142	58	
Cattle and calves	18,030 : 15,797 :		34,901 26,113	36,860 60,410	43,945 36,029	25,582 17,487	: 111	49	
Hogs	1,871	887	4,378	10,255	3,907	907	48	23	
							·		

^{1/} Preliminary. 2/ Hams and shoulders included in "other pork, canned" for 1951, 4-year average. 3/ Includes inedible tallow, inedible animal greases and fats, inedible animal oils, n.e.c., neatsfoot oil and stock, oleic acid or red oil, and stearic acid.

TABLE 6.--LIVESTOCK, MEAT, AND MEAT PRODUCTS: Value of U.S. imports, average 1951-55, annual 1954-58

	Average		1955	1956	: 1957	: 1958 <u>1</u> / :	1958 as percent of:	
	1951-55						1951-55	1957
Beef and yeal:			1,000 dollars			: 1,000 : dollars		Percent
Fresh, chilled, or frozen beef: Fresh, chilled, or frozen veal: Canned beef	889 :	303 28,813 4,663	1,623 91 27,959 896 5,048	1,213 73 20,285 1,361 6,414	8,453 1,402 24,837 1,640 22,948	17,965 : 5,106 : 30,694 : 1,200 : 97,787 :	574 84 12	213 364 124 73 426
Total beef and veal	66,215 :	38,293	35,617	29,346	59,280	152,752 :	231	258
Pork: Fresh, chilled, or frozen Hams, shoulders, and bacon 2/ Other pork, pickled, or salted Sausage, except fresh	68,549 : 4,283 :	95,913	15,410 82,240 9,576 518	12,732 72,889 8,326 629	10,379 77,145 9,614 760	19,867 : 90,873 : 14,005 : 1,082 :	: 133 : 327	191 118 146 142
Total pork	84,089 :	124,247	107,744	94,576	97,898	125,827	150	129
Lamb, mutton, and goat: Fresh, chilled, or frozen lamb Fresh, chilled, or frozen mutton			432	230	618	1,941		314
and goat			134		217	3,570		1,645
Total, lamb, mutton, and goat	1,458 :	461	566	324	835	5,511 :	378	660
Other meat, canned, prepared, or preserved	1,618	1,676	2,141	2,223	3/4,089	<u>3</u> /32,508	2,009	795
Total red meat imports:	153,380 :	164,677	146,068	126,469	162,102	316,598	206	195
Variety meats, edible, fresh, or frozen	488	156	67	20	69	491	101	712
Casings, sheep, lamb, and goat		9,220 3,001	10,459 2,655	12,179 2,871	11,591 4,112	10,163		88 102
Lard	97	0	1	0	0	0		0
Tallow and greases 4/	243	205	238	1,129	389	166	68	43
Hides and skins: Cattle, calf, and kip Goat and kid Sheep and lamb.		20,780	6,308 24,022 14,175	7,188 21,703 23,410	5,502 14,861 17,652	6,667 16,335 19,124	: 65	121 110 108
		42,716	44,505	52,301	38,015	42,126	69	111
Total hides and skins	: 60,711 :							
-	28,693 160:508	: 16,11 ⁴ : 49	28,530 185 258	15,629 98 32	70,934 331 326	137,330 732 363	458	194 221 111

^{1/} Preliminary. 2/ Includes canned hams and shoulders. 3/ Mostly cured and salted boneless beef from Argentina.
4/ Includes edible and inedible tallow, oleo oil and stearine, animal oils and fats, n.e.c., stearic acid, animal fats and greases, n.e.c., and animal oils.

TABLE 7.--LIVESTOCK, MEAT, AND MEAT PRODUCTS: U.S. imports, product weight basis, average 1951-55, annual 1954-58

Commodity	Average	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958 1/		8 as nt of:
Commotitey	1951-55	1974	: - >>>>	: 1970	: +371	1970 1/	1951-55	1957
Beef and yeal:	1,000 pounds					1,000 pounds	Percent	: Percent
Fresh, chilled, or frozen beef Fresh, chilled, or frozen veal Canned beef Pickled or cured Boneless beef and veal	1,833	1,048 85,244 23,234	6,113 275 87,120 5,231 19,775	5,140 245 72,727 8,304 25,444	32,863 4,878 95,265 10,843 88,635	58,880 13,506 113,437 6,144 285,854	737 104 18	179 277 119 57 323
Total beef and veal	202,550	125,692	118,514	111,860	232,484	477,821	236	206
Pork: Fresh, chilled, or frozen Hams, shoulders, and bacon 2/ Other, pickled, or salted Sausage, except fresh	84,209 5,884		41,745 107,348 12,584 562	32,962 94,605 11,119 709	23,081 96,976 12,085 888	51,133 111,064 19,228 1,325	132 327	222 115 159 149
Total pork	: 117,951 :	170,527	162,239	139,395	133,030	182,750	: 155	137
Lamb, mutton, and goat: Fresh, chilled, or frozen lamb Fresh, chilled, or frozen mutton			1,426	810	1,796	6,802		379
and goat	677		826	562	1,747	17,174		983
Total lamb, mutton, and goat	4,066	2,067	2,252	1,372	3,543	23,976	: 590	677
Other meat, canned, prepared, or preserved	4,234	4,613	5,303	5,532	3/15,180	3/141,402	: 3,340	932
Total red meat imports	328,801	302,899	288,308	258,159	384,237	825,949	251	215
Variety meats, edible, fresh, or frozen	1,519	605	268	98	330	2,127	140	645
Casings, sheep, lamb, and goat	4,995 8,629		4,660 8,083	5,540 8,877	4,995 11,648	4,858 11,410		97 98
Lard	1,361	0	2	0	0	0		çan çan co
Tallow and greases 4/	3,000	3,737	3,293	1,666	5,204	1,912	64	37
Rides and skins (1,000 pieces): Cattle, calf, and kip Goat and kid Sheep and lamb	2,879 29,508 20,899	25,231	1,783 28,504 22,575	1,537 27,004 26,973	1,532 20,292 22,155	1,324 19,549 24,066	: 66	86 96 109
Total hides and skins	53,286	47,449	52,862	55,514	43,979	11 4,939	84	102
Livestock (number): Cattle	195,616 4,921 12,319	1,480	31 ⁴ ,377 7,640 6,588	159,359 3,158 382	727,853 17,832 686	1,152,407 39,769 9,094	808	158 223 1,326

^{1/} Preliminary. 2/ Includes canned hams and shoulders. 3/ Mostly cured and salted boneless beef from Argentina. 4/ Includes edible and inedible tallow, oleo oil and stearine, animal oils and fats, n.e.c., stearic acid, animal fats and greases, n.e.c., and animal oils. 5/ 200-pound equivalent.

Variety meat exports, at 70 million pounds, were 24 percent below 1957. Increased prices cut the drop in value to \$15.9 million, only 15 percent below 1957. Variety meat exports have increased sharply in recent years, and 1958 exports were still 128 percent above the 1951-55 average. Exports recovered sharply during the second half of 1958, and in 1959 are expected to regain 1957 levels. West Germany and the Netherlands took 75 percent of U.S. variety meat exports.

Mohair exports continued a steady upward trend in 1958, rising 32 percent above 1957 to over 13 million pounds. These exports, valued at \$11.9 million, were 592 percent above the 1951-55 average. Prior to 1953, U.S. exports were insignificant. Exports during 1959 are expected to continue high.

<u>Casing</u> exports remained about level in 1958. Increased prices caused an increase in the value of casings exported.

IMPORTS

Imports of all types of red meat rose sharply during 1958 to 826 million pounds, valued at \$316.6 million. Most of these large imports were of boneless beef and mutton. Slightly reduced supplies of cattle caused farmers to hold back cows from slaughter to build up herds. Also, other animals which would normally have been slaughtered as canners and cutters were fed out to utilize large grain supplies. Slaughter of cutter and canner cattle fell from 17 percent of total slaughter in 1957 to 12 percent in 1958. The consequent sharp increase in prices of low grade meat encouraged foreign exporters, especially in New Zealand, Australia, and Argentina, to increase their shipments to the United States.

This movement of meat from Australia and New Zealand can be expected to continue for some time. Trade contacts have been made, refrigerated cargo ships have been shifted from the European run, and packing plants in both countries have been modified to meet the demands of the U.S. market. Due to the sharp reduction expected in Argentine beef production, imports of lightly salted boneless beef from that country can be expected to slacken during 1959. An expected shortage of beef in the United Kingdom during 1959 will be likely to increase prices there and attract some of the exports which would otherwise go to the United States. This, however, is not expected to offset the positive factors which have already been set in motion.

Cattle imports also rose sharply to over 1 million head—a new record. Over 80 percent of these animals were feeders bought by U.S. farmers to convert their abundant feed supplies into meat. Imports from Canada are expected to drop sharply in 1959, while imports from Mexico are expected to remain high.



